

BICYCLE MASTER PLAN

Connecting Communities

Adopted XXX-XX-XXXX

Introduction

The purpose of this plan is to identify potential bicycle routes and bike-share locations throughout the City at the macro level. It does not identify the type of facilities to be used along the potential routes nor does it advocate for the removal of on-street parking to provide space for such facilities.

Why Have a Bicycle Master Plan

The creation of a Bicycle Master Plan is identified in “Mobility for All Modes,” the Transportation Chapter of the Comprehensive Plan, specifically:

“Develop a City-wide bicycle facilities plan to connect the City’s commercial areas and neighborhoods, transit facilities, schools, regional bicycle facilities, and designated bicycle routes in neighboring jurisdictions. Include an action plan for achieving Bicycle Friendly status.”

The recommendation is motivated by the many benefits that bicycle travel provides. These benefits include improvements in public health, the environment, the economy, and social equity.

Public Health Benefits

- Regular exercise recommendations from Surgeon General

Environment

- As an alternative to automobiles, local air pollution (non-attainment area), reduced energy use – sustainability

Economic

- Private costs – automobile yearly costs
- Public costs – high cost of parking, costs of road maintenance

Equity

- Available to those who do not want to or can’t drive
- Reduces chauffer burden

Is Bicycling for Everyone?

- It can be, but it doesn’t have to be
- Goal of this plan is to provide options, note growing trends in bicycle usage nationally and regionally

Vision

Provide a network of bicycle routes that connects the City’s commercial areas and neighborhoods, transit facilities, schools, regional bicycle facilities, and designated bicycle routes in neighboring jurisdictions.

Bicycle Routes

- A person biking can travel at a speed of approximately 10 miles per hour
- In considering routes, including not just the City, but all the things that can be reached outside the City
- Reference COG activity centers
- Note that people can bike on any street in the City

Existing Conditions

City of Falls Church

- W&OD Trail, what is it, when was it established
- City Bicycle Route, what is it, when was it established
- Park Ave & Maple Ave sharrows, what are they, when were they installed

Arlington County

- What routes and facilities do they have, what do they connect to?

Fairfax County

- What routes and facilities do they have, what do they connect to?

Future Conditions

- Methodology – making connections, reference vision statement

Facility Types

- Plan assumes shared facilities for all routes, as done along Park Ave and Maple Ave, see appendix A for other bicycle facility types

Maps

- Existing – City scale
- Existing – 5 mile scale
- Future – City scale
- Future – 5 mile scale

Implementation

Plan calls for shared facilities; however, community desire could be used to switch to a different facility type – see appendix A for list of different bicycle facilities

Bicycle Sharing

- What is bicycle sharing?
- How does it work?
 - Membership
 - 30 minutes free
 - First-mile, last-mile
 - Can be used throughout metropolitan area – D.C., Arlington, Alexandria, Montgomery County, soon Reston Virginia

Maps

- Existing – 5 mile scale
- Future – City scale
- Future – 5 mile scale

Implementation

Appendix A: Bicycle Facilities

This plan assumes all routes are shared lanes. These are included for information and reference.

- Sharrow
- Bike-Lane
- Buffered Bike Lane
- Etc, see NACTO Guide
- <http://nacto.org/cities-for-cycling/design-guide/>

Appendix B: Public Engagement

This Program was developed with collaboration among Council, Planning Commission, Citizens Advisory Committee on Transportation (CACT), other relevant boards and commission, public, and staff. Programs updates and draft materials were regularly updated on the project webpage: <http://www.fallschurchva.gov/ntc>. The Program update was discussed at the following public meetings:

Date	Meeting
March 11, 2015	CACT
March 16, 2015	Planning Commission work session
April 8, 2015	Community Open House
April 8, 2015	CACT
April 16, 2015	Environmental Services Council
May 4, 2015	Joint City Council – Planning Commission work session
May 5, 2015	Economic Development Authority
May 6, 2015	Recreation & Parks Advisory Board
May 13, 2015	CACT
May 18, 2015	Planning Commission
June 1, 2015	City Council work session
June 8, 2015	City Council

CACT Recommendation

Planning Commission Recommendation

Council Adoption by Resolution



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